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CHAPTER VIII—PUBLIC WORKS, ELECTRICAL AND ROAD TRANSPORT DEPARTMENTS.

(i) Public Works.

797. In order to secure undivided attention for the execution of major Irrigation Works in the State, the post of a Special Chief Engineer was sanctioned in November 1953, for a period of one year in the first instance, with Headquarters at Bangalore, for being in charge of the Bhadra Reservior, the Thunga Anicut, the Nugu Reservoir, Irrigation under the Thunga Bhadra Project in Mysore area and other Works. The Chief Engineer ceased to have control and jurisdiction over Major Irrigation Works specified above from the date the Special Chief Engineer assumed charge.

798. The Hydraulic Engineering Research Station styled "MYSORE ENGINEERING RESEARCH STATION" was transferred to the direct control of the Chief Engineer in January 1954.

799. Special Sub-Division sanctioned in May 1953, for restoring the minor tanks in Yelandur Jahagir was constituted with effect from 3rd September 1953, with Headquarters at Yelandur.

800. The formation of a Sanitary Circle under an officer of the rank and status of a Superintending Engineer, specialised in Water Supply and Sanitary Engineering Works was sanctioned in May 1953. Among the main duties attached to the Circle are the tendering of the technical advice on the execution of Municipal Water Supply Schems, drainage, etc., the scrutiny of estimates and of the requirements of machinery. The superintendence of and control over the Water Supply Division, Bangalore, with its existing Sub-Divisions was also transferred to this Circle.

801. One more special Sub-Division, *viz.* C.R.S. Water Works Special Sub-Division was formed during January 1954, for the execution of the works connected with the development scheme of C.R.S. Water Works for increasing the Water Supply from Thippagondanahally to Bangalore.

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802. Forty-nine important works were in progress during the year. The construction of six office buildings were also in progress.

803. The construction of twenty-six middle school buildings, and 43 primary school buildings were completed during the year.

804. The construction of 14 bridges was under various stages of progress during the year.

Road Reclassification.

805. The previous classification of roads into four classes was abolished in August 1953, and the roads were classified into two categories only, *viz.*, (1) State Fund Roads and (2) District Fund Roads. This came into effect from 1st April 1953. According to this Order, the responsibility for forming and maintaining new roads in rural areas was transferred to the District Boards along with the responsibility for maintaining District Fund Roads. The responsibility of Government was restricted to the maintenance of State Fund Roads only.

Schemes for improving Water Supply in several Municipalities in the State.

806. The supply of drinking water in several towns in the State not being satisfactory either in quality or in quantity, 79 schemes to satisfy this long felt want were sanctioned during the year. The cost of these schemes is proposed to be spread over a period of four years. In the first instance a loan of Rs. 50 lakhs was sanctioned during December 1952 as a first instalment to implement these water supply schemes.

807. When the Sanitary Circle came into existence, 36 schemes were technically sanctioned and 13 of them were actually under execution. An expenditure of Rs. 13,17,610 was incurred on this account. In addition, ten deposit contribution works also were in progress.

Water Supply Division.

808. This Division is entrusted with the works relating to the supply of water to Bangalore, Mysore and Kolar Gold Fields. Due to the rise in the number of public fountains, increase in the number of house connections, influx of population and the development of the newly laid-out extensions, the demand for water was on the increase. As the supply position had remained unchanged, it became expedient to introduce the intermittent supply system from 4 P.M. to 10 A.M. and 5 P.M. to 10 P.M. during the summer months. The average daily receipts of water at C.J.F. during the year was 12·0 million gallons as compared with 11·7 million gallons of the previous year.

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Lift Irrigation.

809. There are only two Community Lift Irrigation Schemes in progress. The revised estimate for the Neelasoge Lift Irrigation Scheme was sanctioned for Rs. 1·73 lakhs and the work has nearly been completed. The scheme for Lift Irrigation at Gollarahalli in Honnali Taluk in Shimoga District was in progress.

Construction of Big Tanks.

810. Out of the several works included in the programme, provisions made for Kanva, Nelligudda, Muthugadur and Budigere Tanks were for settlement of compensation and other claims. These have been completed. Against the 700 works in progress, 221 have been completed.

River Channels.

811. Out of the 337 works left over from the previous year 160 were completed, the additional acreage benefited being nearly 10,000 acres.

Restoration of Minor Tanks.

812. Including the incomplete works of the previous year, there were 750 tank works in progress. Besides, a large number of tanks were brought to a stage of utility, by which anticipated irrigation benefits were being realised. The total expenditure during the agricultural year was Rs. 14,37,615.

Desilting of Tanks.

813. The large number of works taken up as a measure of Distress Relief in the previous year had to be continued during the year in order that the work may be brought to a stage of utility and to enable the works being continued under the Restoration Scheme. Against the Budget grant of Rs. 5 lakhs, the actual expenditure was Rs. 8,17,819.

814. The expenditure under the Land Improvement Schemes amounted to Rs. 3,69,480.

The Five-Year Plan.

815. The Mysore State Plan follows the First Five-Year plan of the India Government in its general pattern and was started in 1951-52. The Mysore Plan involves a total expenditure of Rs. 3,660 lakhs during the five-year period and the activities of the P.W.D. amounted to Rs. 1,260·40 lakhs.

816. The main objects of the Five-Year plan are (i) to secure an increase in the production of food grains, by the construction of new Irrigation Works and improvements to existing works and (2) to construct and improve Roads and Bridges for better communication facilities, to lift up the economic condition of the people. The Malnad Development Works also aim at similar objects in Malnad districts of the State.

817. Under Irrigation and Power, 20 works were in progress and 15 new schemes were included so as to bring under irrigation an extent of 83,787 acres of new lands and assuring irrigation on 2,965 acres of existing wet lands.

818. The final grant for the year under all heads amounted to Rs 6,60,39,951 against which an outlay of Rs. 5,46,18,722 was incurred, including the expenditure on contribution works, district board works, etc. The expenditure was less than the grant by Rs. 1,14,21,299.

Major Irrigation Works.

819. Consequent to the Central assistance afforded to the Bhadra Reservoir Project under the First Five-Year Plan, it was considered necessary to accelerate the progress on these works, and with a view to achieve this object, the formation of four additional Divisions and 13 Sub-Divisions was sanctioned in November 1953.

820. The total grant for the projects stood at Rs. 1,27,72,750 against which an outlay of Rs. 1,20,78,401 was incurred.

(ii) Electrical Department.

821. Special Health staff at Sivasamudram, Shimsapura and Jog for sanitary and malarial control was maintained, and contribution to Mysore Iron and Steel Works for anti-malarial works at Bhadravati was continued. The hospitals in Jog, Shivasamudram and Shimshapura were well maintained.

822. The total planned estimated expenditure for the development of Hydro Electric Schemes for the first five years commencing from 1951-52 was 12·68 crores. The third year of the plan provided for a capital expenditure of Rs. 275 lakhs against which the revised Budget Grant was Rs. 236·66 lakhs exclusively for development within the Mysore State prior to merger. Subsequently development of power supply to the seven taluks of Bellary and a share of cost for development of Thungabhadra Hydro Electric Schemes devolved on the Department due to the merger of the additional territory to the State. An additional grant of Rupees six lakhs for Bellary area proper and Rs. 13·60